GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2882
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
FUNDS FOR CONSERVATION OF LAKES
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Ananth Kumar Shri ;Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any study/assessment on the deterioration of lakes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to rejuvenate, preserve and develop the lakes that have dried up due to various reasons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and details of the funds made available for this purpose, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) since June, 2001 on 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central Government and the respective State Governments with its objective to restore and conserve the polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the country. The Plan includes core components of interception, diversion and treatment of wastewaters before their entry into the lake, catchment area treatment, shoreline protection, in-lake treatment (aeration, de-weeding, de-siltation, bio-remediation and bio-manipulation) etc. The non core activities include lake front eco-development (beautification, optimum public interface, low cost sanitation etc.) and public participation.

In order to identify polluted and degraded lakes across the country, a study was carried out at the instance of Planning Commission. A list of 62 lakes across the country requiring conservation, was prepared under the study. The State Governments were asked to review this list and to prioritize the lakes in their States for submission of proposals under NLCP. New lakes under the Plan are sanctioned on the basis of their prioritization, admissibility and availability of funds under NLCP.

Out of the proposals received so far, the Ministry has sanctioned projects for conservation of 52 lakes at a total approved cost of Rs. 687.52 crore. An amount of Rs. 239.08 crore (out of Govt of India share) has been released till date under the NLCP for implementation of approved lake conservation projects. The details of different lake conservation projects sanctioned State-wise, under the NLCP, are annexed.